

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HILDA L. SOLIS

May 12, 2015

**MOTION TO SUPPORT OR SPONSOR LEGISLATION TO AUTHORIZE THE
RELINQUISHMENT OF A PORTION OF ROSEMEAD BOULEVARD TO THE
COUNTY**

A 2.6-mile segment of State Highway 19 (Hwy-19), Rosemead Boulevard between the southern boundary of the City of South El Monte (Rush Street) to the northern boundary of the City of Pico Rivera (Gallatin Road), is within the Los Angeles County unincorporated area. Whittier Narrows Recreational Area – the largest park in the region – is geographically split into four uneven quadrants by State Route 60 (SR-60), which runs east to west and Hwy-19, which runs north to south. Both SR-60 and Hwy-19 have free flowing on/off ramps without crosswalks. This portion of Rosemead Boulevard has a posted speed limit of 50 miles per hour. Some areas lack signage and sidewalks. Collectively, these conditions make this segment of Rosemead Boulevard challenging for people seeking non-vehicular access to park amenities.

In an effort to improve this portion of Rosemead Boulevard, Los Angeles County is working with the State of California to relinquish jurisdiction of this segment of

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Rosemead Boulevard to the County. Cooperative efforts are underway with State technical staff and Senator Ed Hernandez, who authored Senate Bill 461 (as amended on April 6, 2015) to accomplish this relinquishment.

The relinquishment would allow the County to construct a *Complete Streets* corridor project, reflective of a community-driven vision, that would fully accommodate safe and convenient travel for all users of the road and which would emphasize safer conditions for vulnerable users such as seniors, people with limited or device-assisted mobility, youth, pedestrians, cyclists and equestrians. The project also aims to complement the surrounding Whittier Narrows Recreation Area – the largest park in the region – by enhancing recreation opportunities and access to the park, which is consistent with existing Board-approved policy to increase the prevalence and safety of sidewalks, walking trails, bike paths, and parks; promote safe walking and biking routes to schools and commercial districts; and promote complete streets, which make streets safe and accessible for all users including automobiles, pedestrians, and bicyclists.

The County's acceptance of the relinquishment is contingent upon the terms and conditions of a future agreement between the State and County.

With respect to future maintenance, funding for maintenance of the relinquished portion of Rosemead Boulevard will come from County Road Funds. With respect to the *Complete Streets* corridor project, funding will come from a variety of competitive grant funded programs, which may include the California Active Transportation Program and the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority Call for Projects, among others. The *Complete Streets* corridor project will be carried out in phases with funding for Phase I of the project to be submitted in this Spring 2015 California Active

Transportation Program.

I, THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD direct the Chief Executive Office to work with the Sacramento advocates to pursue or support legislation which would authorize the relinquishment of the above-mentioned segment of State Highway 19--Rosemead Boulevard to Los Angeles County.

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SUP:HLS